

#### Right of Way Procedures, Part II

Tom Childrey, Manager, Right of Way Unit

January 8, 2013

#### RIGHT OF WAY PROCEDURES

- Last Month's Topics (Part I)
  - Laws & Regulations
  - Process Overview
  - Appraisals
  - Negotiations
- Today's Topics (Part II):
  - Condemnation (Eminent Domain)
  - Trial Experience
  - Settlement Statistics

#### **Overall Project Process**

Long Range Planning

**Project Prioritization** 

Project Programming (STIP)

Project Development/Preliminary
Design/Environmental Policy Act Compliance

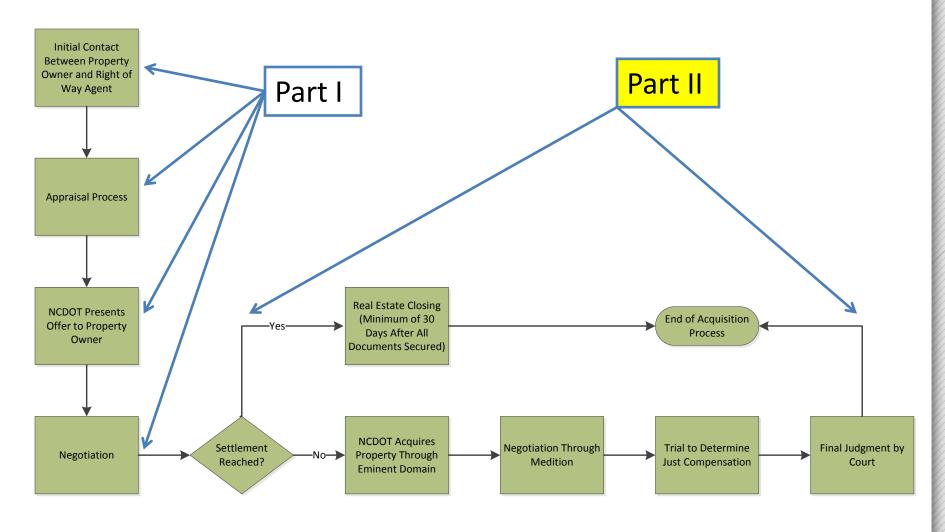
Right of Way Plans

**Right of Way Acquisition Process** 

Final Design Plans

**Project Letting** 

#### **Right of Way Acquisition Process**



#### **CONDEMNATION PROCESS**

 Legal Services provided by Attorney General's Office

- Two Subsections of AG's office
- Lands/Condemnations
- Contracts

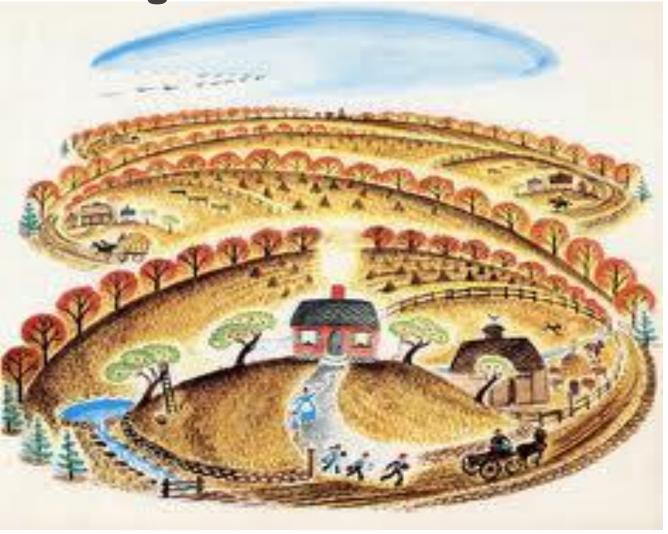
# Eminent Domain is the right of government to acquire private property for public use without the landowner's consent upon payment of just compensation.

#### What is Just Compensation?

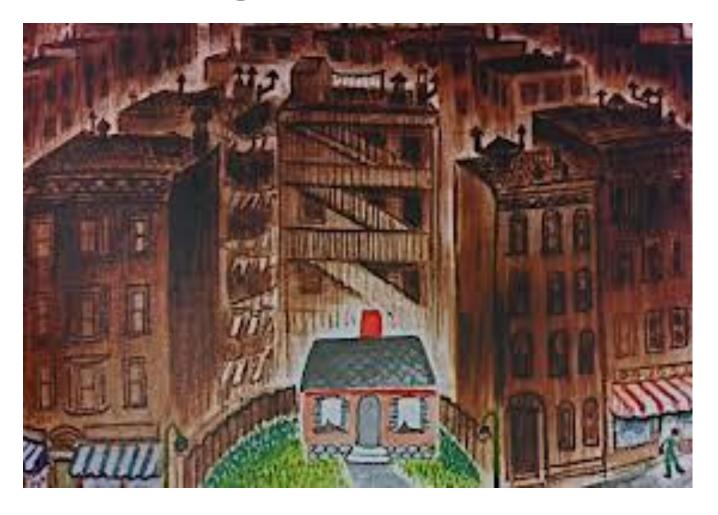
- 1. highest and best use of property before taking equates to a value
- 2. highest and best use of property after taking equates to a value

"Just compensation" is the difference between the two values

**Highest and Best Use** 



#### Not Highest and Best Use



#### Taking of Property by NCDOT . . .

- \* Must be for public purpose
- Must pay just compensation

**Condemnation Statute** 

Chapter 136, Article 9, used by NCDOT

### Thousands of condemnation claims at NCDOT each year.

Only 20-25% of these claims require legal action . . .



thanks to efforts of Right of Way Appraisers and Negotiators

#### **CONDEMNATION ACTION**

# File COMPLAINT and DECLARATION OF TAKING in Superior Court where land located



#### **COMPLAINT MUST CONTAIN:**

- 1. description of entire tract
- 2. description of interest taken (i.e., fee simple, drainage easement, etc.)
- 3. description of area taken
- 4. listing of all having interest in land
- 5. listing of liens and encumbrances

Estimated just compensation is deposited with Court at time of filing

## "QUICK-TAKE" PROCEDURE (PER CHAPTER 136)

Complaint, Declaration of Taking and just compensation filed . . .

title to land then vests in NCDOT, and public is given notice by filing of action in local Register of Deeds





**"108" HEARING** 

G.S. §136-108 provides for hearing to resolve issues other than damages

For example...

Lawsuit filed . . .

Answer filed . . .

Map filed . . .

and all issues except compensation determined

**NEXT...THE TRIAL**